

SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS

Please amend Applicant's Specification after the paragraph entitled "Summary of the Invention" and before the paragraph entitled "Brief Description of the Invention" by adding the paragraphs beginning with the heading "BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS" as follows:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

According to one embodiment of the disclosure a covering retaining device is disclosed. The retaining device comprises, in combination, at least one stake member having a plurality of longitudinal ribs, at least one of the plurality of longitudinal ribs having a slot located in an upper portion of the at least one of the plurality of longitudinal ribs, the slot adapted to receive at least one flexible and resilient member, the length of the slot adapted for overcoming depth variations of a supporting surface whereon the covering is loosely pre-positioned; the at least one stake member tapering at one end of the at least one stake member for driving into the supporting surface and an opposite end of the at least one stake member having a recess; a removable personalized head member having a protrusion, the recess of the at least one stake member adapted to receive the protrusion of the removable personalized head member; and the at least one flexible and resilient member coupled to a resilient clip thereby retaining the covering on the supporting surface having variations in depth when a portion of the covering is coupled to the resilient clip.

According to another embodiment of the disclosure a method of retaining a covering is disclosed. The method comprises the steps of providing at least one stake member having a plurality of longitudinal ribs, at least one of the plurality of longitudinal ribs having a slot located in an upper portion of the at least one of the plurality of longitudinal ribs, the slot adapted to receive at

least one flexible and resilient member, the length of the slot adapted for overcoming depth variations of a supporting surface whereon the covering is loosely pre-positioned; providing the slot of the at least one of the plurality of longitudinal ribs comprises about one third of the length of the at least one stake member; driving one end of the at least one stake member into the supporting surface and providing an opposite end of the at least one stake member having a recess; providing a removable personalized head member having a protrusion, the recess of the at least one stake member adapted to receive the protrusion of the removable personalized head member; coupling the protrusion of the removable head member to the recess; coupling the at least one flexible and resilient member to a resilient clip thereby retaining the covering on the supporting surface having variations in depth when a portion of the covering is coupled to the resilient clip; coupling the resilient clip to a portion of the covering; and positioning the at least one flexible and resilient member coupled to the slot of the at least one of the plurality of longitudinal ribs thereby retaining the covering on the supporting surface having variations in depth and insuring that the covering remains taut over the supporting surface.